

Celebrating Food, Culture &
Climate Action

TOWER HAMLETS POWER OF FOOD FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

18th - 28th September 2025



WORKSHOPS, MEALS,
EXHIBITIONS, TOURS
TALKS, FILM
SCREENINGS & MORE



justfact.co.uk/festival

Artwork: Ellis Lewis-Dragstra

Welcome

Power of Food Festival is a 10 day festival across Tower Hamlets – celebrating the borough's community and food cultures, and showcasing local projects building fairer, more sustainable food systems.

There will be inspiring, thought-provoking and delicious events including community meals, supper clubs, workshops, film screenings, photography exhibitions, kids' activities, panel discussions, and tours of gardens and food-growing spaces, including a farm based in Essex that grows food for the borough.

Food and Power

This festival invites us to think about the unique power of food. It is at the heart of our lives, connecting us to our traditions, cultures, and people around us. It links to how we care for ourselves and others. The festival also invites us to think about how we can take power into our own hands and reclaim our food system – so it has the interests of our communities and the environment at its heart.

From learning food skills, to practising our culture and feeling connected to our communities, to building alternative ways of growing, buying, sharing, composting food – these are all ways that can help put power back into our hands.



Tickets will be available from Mid-August.

SCHEDULED EVENTS (MORE COMING SOON)

THURSDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

17:30-20:30	Power of Food Festival Opening Event: Join us for stalls, a shared meal, talks and performances that share local work and our collective vision for a food system, as well as exploring what is needed for wider change. <i>Tower Hamlets Town Hall, E1 1BJ</i>
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DAY 1: FRIDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

15:40-16:40	Boil & Bubble: Sensory cook-a-long workshops for children and families! (<i>suitable for children aged 5-7</i>) Come and make some delicious dishes prepared using surplus produce and things from our community kitchen garden. <i>Teviot Centre, E14 6QD</i>
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11:00-16:00 18:30-21:00	Perpetual Stew: A week-long event series exploring knowledge and spatial justice. Bring a vegetable for the everlasting pot of stew. <i>House of Annetta, E1 6QH</i>
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17:30-19:30	Launch of Full English photo exhibition: Explore the food cultures of the Muslim community and how both traditional English and international cuisines have become incorporated into their daily lives. <i>Poplar Union, E14 6TL</i>
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19:00-21:30	The Stories We Serve: Exploring the food cultures of the Muslim community and how both traditional English and international cuisines have become incorporated into their daily lives. With the Scene, at <i>Poplar Union, E14 6TL</i>
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DAY 2: SATURDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER

11:00-16:00	Folx Farm Open Day: A fun and relaxed day to explore the farm and learn about the FAF (Food Access Fund) project. Travel provided. <i>Folx Farm, TN36 4AH</i>
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14:00-16:00	Chai-chana time: Come and join Swadhinata Trust for Chanachur, Masala chai and Carrom board games! <i>Arts One Building, Queen Mary University. E1 4PD</i>
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14:00-16:00	Fermenting Futures: A participatory workshop using kimchi making and storytelling to interrogate East and South East Asian food sovereignty and climate organising. <i>House of Annetta, E1 6QH</i>
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11:00-16:00 18:30-21:00	Perpetual Stew: A week-long event series exploring knowledge and spatial justice. Bring a vegetable for the everlasting pot of stew. <i>House of Annetta, E1 6QH</i>
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DAY 3: SUNDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER

14:00-16:00	Magic of Microbes: Explore what happens when we harness microbes to transform our food waste, and why locally grown food is good for our gut bacteria. Family-friendly <i>R-Urban, Brion Place, E14 0SP</i>
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14:00-17:00	Power of food - Screening & Discussion: A screening of the documentary <i>Any Time Money</i> by Heshani Sothiraj Eddleston and short films by grassroots collectives on food and climate issues. <i>Whitechapel Gallery. E1 7QX</i>
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17:00-21:00	Boodle Karaoke (United Domestic Workers Association): A celebration of Filipino food and culture, a play on two very important parts of every Filipino fiesta: eating and singing. Family-friendly. <i>Pelican House, E1 5QJ</i>
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11:00-16:00 18:30-21:00	Perpetual Stew: A week-long event series exploring knowledge and spatial justice. Bring a vegetable for the everlasting pot of stew. <i>House of Annetta, E1 6QH</i>
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DAY 4: MONDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER

15:40-16:40	Boil & Bubble: Sensory cook-a-long workshops for children and families! (<i>suitable for children aged 7-11</i>) Come and make some delicious dishes prepared using surplus produce and things from our community kitchen garden. <i>Teviot Centre, E14 6QD</i>
16:00-18:00	Tower Hamlets Fairtrade: Healthy Eating Options: A presentation of tasty, nutritional and easy-to-prepare snack and meal options using ethically-sourced Fairtrade ingredients. <i>Tower Hamlets Town Hall, E1 1BJ</i>
11:00-16:00 18:30-21:00	Perpetual Stew: A week-long event series exploring knowledge and spatial justice. Bring a vegetable for the everlasting pot of stew. <i>House of Annetta, E1 6QH</i>
18:00-21:00	Eat Club's Forgotten Feast: A supper club hosted by Eat Club's Young Leaders, to celebrate the lesser known and forgotten Tower Hamlets dishes from communities in Tower Hamlets, and to ensure that the legacy of these dishes continue throughout the younger generations. <i>Limborough Food Hub, Thomas Road, E14 7AW</i>

DAY 5: TUESDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER

10:00-13:00	Teviot Food Coop: selling affordable, organic fresh fruit and vegetables, drop-in and fill those baskets! <i>Teviot Centre, E14 6QD</i>
13:00-15:15	Our World, Our Wellness: Showcase of local food co-operation, gardening for wellbeing, and sustainable food practices at Leaders in Community. <i>Teviot Centre, E14 6QD</i>
15:40-16:40	Boil & Bubble: Sensory cook-a-long workshops for children and families! (<i>suitable for children aged 4-5</i>) Come and make some delicious dishes prepared using surplus produce and things from our community kitchen garden. <i>Teviot Centre, E14 6QD</i>
11:00-16:00 18:30-21:00	Perpetual Stew: A week-long event series exploring knowledge and spatial justice. Bring a vegetable for the everlasting pot of stew. <i>House of Annetta, E1 6QH</i>

DAY 6: WEDNESDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER

10:00-16:00	Spitalfields City Farm: A day of events to highlight the role food + cooking plays in Bangladeshi and Asian culture. <i>Spitalfields City Farm E1 5AR</i>
11:00-1500	Aromas of a Distant Land: a shared cooking experience and meal led by the women growers at Limborough, sharing ancestral recipes using vegetables grown in the garden like Khudoo. Women only. <i>Limborough Food Hub, Thomas Road, E14 7AW</i>
11:00-16:00 18:30-21:00	Perpetual Stew: A week-long event series exploring knowledge and spatial justice. Bring a vegetable for the everlasting pot of stew. <i>House of Annetta, E1 6QH</i>

DAY 7: THURSDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER

11:00-15:00	R-Urban Green Skills Volunteering: Join Katrina to learn new gardening and green skills. Free veggie, halal lunch! R-Urban, Brion Place, E14 OSP
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12:00-16:00	Teviot Food Coop: selling affordable, organic fresh fruit and vegetables, drop-in and fill those baskets! <i>Teviot Centre, E14 6QD</i>
12:30-16:30	Community Harvest Celebration: A community meal with seasonal workshops, a farm tour and stalls. <i>Stepney City Farm, E1 3DG</i>
14:00-15:30	Practicing community-led food justice: What could Tower Hamlets look like in 50 years if we had a community-led food system? Come along to this workshop with the Blueprint Architects. <i>Stepney City Farm, E1 3DG</i>
12:00-17:00	Swendenborg Orchard Community Event: Harvesting summer crops, pickling workshops, plant swaps. <i>Swedenborg Gardens Orchard, E1 8HR</i>
14:00-16:00	Magic of Microbes: Explore what happens when we harness microbes to transform our food waste, and why locally grown food is good for our gut bacteria. Family-friendly. <i>R-Urban, Brion Place, E14 OSP</i>
16:00-19:00	Stone Soup at R Urban: bring along an ingredient that has a personal story, and collectively we'll make a delicious feast. <i>R-Urban, Brion Place, E14 OSP</i>
11:00-16:00 18:30-21:00	Perpetual Stew: A week-long event series exploring knowledge and spatial justice. Bring a vegetable for the everlasting pot of stew. <i>House of Annetta, E1 6QH</i>

DAY 8: FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER

15:40-16:40	Boil & Bubble: Sensory cook-a-long workshops for children and families! (suitable for children aged 4-5). Come and make some delicious dishes prepared using surplus produce and things from our community kitchen garden. <i>Teviot Centre, E14 6QD</i>
14:00-17:00	Stories from the Garden: Join us for a fun, family-friendly stop-motion workshop celebrating R-Urban's growing community using recycled and natural materials. <i>R-Urban, Brion Place, E14 OSP</i>
16:00-19:00	Plastic Free Poplar Picnic (Sunny Jar Eco Hub): Join us for a collaborative cooking session, creating plant based picnic foods without the plastic! Family-friendly. <i>R-Urban, Brion Place, E14 OSP</i>
16:30-21:00	Storytelling with SASS (South Asian Sisters Speak): Join us for an evening exploring food and South Asian culture. <i>Gallery Cafe, St Margaret's House, E2 9PL</i>
11:00-16:00 18:30-21:00	Perpetual Stew: A week-long event series exploring knowledge and spatial justice. Bring a vegetable for the everlasting pot of stew. <i>House of Annetta, E1 6QH</i>

DAY 9: SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

10:00-16:00	Right to Grow x Cranbrook Garden: Roots & Routes: A community-led garden tour across Tower Hamlets, celebrating local harvests, global food cultures, and shared stories. <i>Cranbrook Community Garden, E2 ORB</i>
11:00-16:00 18:30-21:00	Perpetual Stew: A week-long event series exploring knowledge and spatial justice. Bring a vegetable for the everlasting pot of stew. <i>House of Annetta, E1 6QH</i>

DAY 10: SUNDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER

10:30-12:30	StoryPlay – the Power of Food! <i>Playful, creative session for kids</i>: Come and get involved with our Community Garden as we tell stories, play games and nurture the plants we've been growing over the summer! <i>Rich Mix, E1 6LA</i>
16:00-20:00	Power of Food Festival closing party! Food, music (DJ sets from our festival friends), and art activities. It will be a chance to relax, celebrate and connect with each other! <i>Rich Mix, E1 6LA</i>

RUNNING THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL

Full English

Monday 15th September - Sunday 5th October, 0900-1500 daily

A photographic exhibition from artist Nurull Islam, exploring the food cultures of the Muslim community and how both traditional English and international cuisines have become incorporated into their daily lives. *Poplar Union, E14 6TL*

Mobile Arts Installation, on a converted food trailer

Every day (except Mondays) until 4pm

An old coffee trailer that holds our dreams for food and land justice in Tower Hamlets! The trailer asks you to think about the past, present and future of food justice: to recall your food memories, to ponder what access to food and land looks like today, and to dream about better systems of the future. Come along and add your mark to its growing tapestry. *Stepney City Farm, E1 3DG*

Perpetual Stew

Friday 19th September - Saturday 27th October

A week-long event series exploring knowledge and spatial justice. Bring a vegetable for the everlasting pot of stew, simmered day and night. *House of Annetta, 25 Princelet St, E1 6QH*

1100-1600: Visit the exhibition, free lunch, teas and juices made from foraged, fermented, found and donated ingredients.

1830-2100: Share your ingredient, a volunteer team of cooks chop it up and add it to the pot. Then, skill-shares, discussions, plotting, dreaming, followed by a collective feast.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The festival is delivered as part of the Just Food and Climate Transition Programme (Just FACT), a 5 year partnership programme led by Women's Environmental Network with funding from the Climate Action Fund. The festival is being co-ordinated by the festival working group (Hussina Raja, Elle McAll, Rae Hippolyte, Andrea Torrico and Maud Barrett).

Groups, organisations and artists collaborating on the festival include:

- Oitij-jo Collective
- House of Annetta
- Rich Mix
- Women's Inclusive Teams
- Bangladeshi Mental Health Forum
- The Scene
- Boil & Bubble
- Cranbrook Community Food Garden
- Tower Hamlets Right to Grow campaign
- Eat Club
- Folx Farm
- Green Lions
- MAD LEAP
- Platform & Blueprint Architects
- Nurull Islam
- Public Works
- Mathilde Hansen
- Swadhinata Trust
- Society Links
- South Asian Sisters Speak
- Spitalfields City Farm
- Stepney City Farm
- Ocean Women's Network
- Sunny Jar Eco Hub
- United Domestic Workers
- Tower Hamlets Food Partnership
- Limborough Food Hub
- Food Lives
- Fairtrade Foundation
- Leaders in Community
- Teviot Food Coop

With thanks to the supporting venues:

- Poplar Union
- Whitechapel Gallery
- Pelican House
- Rich Mix
- Queen Mary University